

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 31

Commending Archbishop Desmond Tutu for being a recipient of the Immortal
Chaplains Prize for Humanity.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 3, 1999

Mr. GRAMS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

OCTOBER 24 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2000

Committee discharged; considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Commending Archbishop Desmond Tutu for being a recipient
of the Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity.

Whereas the Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity was established by the Immortal Chaplains Foundation to honor the memory of the four “Immortal Chaplains” of World War II, Lieutenant George L. Fox, Methodist; Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lieutenant John P. Washington, Catholic; and Lieutenant Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed;

Whereas witnesses have verified that during the approximate 18 minutes the United States Army transport Dorchester was sinking on February 3, 1943, after being torpedoed off the coast of Greenland, the four chaplains went from

soldier to soldier calming fears and handing out life jackets and guiding men to safety and when there were no more life jackets, they removed their own life jackets and gave them to others to save their lives and were last seen arm-in-arm in prayer on the hull of the ship;

Whereas many of the 230 men who survived owed their lives to these four chaplains, and witnesses among them recounted the unique ecumenical spirit and love for their fellow man these four demonstrated;

Whereas the Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity was created to ensure that the spirit of these Chaplains is celebrated through a living memorial to be awarded to those who have been willing to put their lives in danger to grant assistance to persons of a different creed or color;

Whereas Archbishop Desmond Tutu served as Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, which performed a historical role and set a precedent in revealing the truth about atrocities committed in the past and providing the means of a peaceful resolution for the pain suffered by that nation;

Whereas Archbishop Desmond Tutu continues to defend the rights of the downtrodden of many nations, exhibiting compassion to those of different races and religious beliefs; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable to recognize that Archbishop Desmond Tutu's actions are in keeping with the spirit of the "Immortal Chaplains": Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Senate commends Archbishop
- 2 Desmond Tutu for being a recipient of the Immortal
- 3 Chaplains Prize for Humanity.

